

CHAPTER 19
MASS GATHERINGS

[Prior to 7/29/87, Health Department[470]]

641—19.1(135) Definitions. For the purpose of these rules, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated in this rule:

“Attendant” means any person who obtains admission to an outdoor assembly by the payment of money or without charge.

“Mass gathering” means an outdoor assembly which may be attended by more than 1,000 attendants for a period of more than 12 hours’ duration. A mass gathering does not mean an event which is conducted or sponsored by a governmental unit on publicly owned property or an event which is held within a permanent building constructed for the purpose of conducting mass gathering activities.

“Person” means an individual, group of individuals, partnership, firm, corporation or association.

641—19.2(135) General prohibition. No person shall sponsor, promote, operate, maintain or conduct a mass gathering unless there is compliance with the requirements of these rules. Compliance with these rules does not exempt compliance with other federal and state statutes and regulations or local regulations and ordinances.

641—19.3(135) Notice and plan. Any person planning to sponsor, promote, operate, maintain or conduct a mass gathering shall notify the director of public health at least 30 days before the date event is scheduled to begin. The notice shall include the plan for compliance with the provisions of these rules.

641—19.4(135) Requirements. The following shall be provided and in operation at least 24 hours before the mass gathering is scheduled to begin.

19.4(1) Water supply. All water shall be from a source approved by the Iowa department of public health. If water is not available in a pressure system, the transportation vehicles must be approved by the Iowa department of public health.

a. For each 24-hour period, at least 5,000 gallons of water shall be provided for each 1,000 attendants. Water shall be continuously available.

b. At least four outlets shall be provided for each 1,000 attendants. One-half of the outlets shall be of fountain type. The outlets shall be conveniently located.

c. No common drinking cup shall be provided or allowed to be used.

19.4(2) Washing facilities. Hand-washing facilities with soap and paper towels shall be provided for use of food handlers. These facilities must be located conveniently to each food concession and kitchen.

19.4(3) Toilet facilities.

a. The method of toilet waste disposal shall be approved by the Iowa department of public health.

b. All toilet facilities shall be enclosed and separate facilities shall be provided for each sex.

c. At least ten individual toilet compartments shall be provided for each 1,000 attendants or fraction thereof.

d. Toilet facilities shall be conveniently located and be accessible for servicing.

e. Toilet facilities shall be kept clean and supplied with toilet tissue.

f. Toilet facilities shall be at least 200 feet from food service facilities.

19.4(4) Solid waste. Receptacles for the collection of solid waste shall be located at convenient locations. The receptacles shall be readily accessible to collection vehicles. The pick up and removal of refuse, trash, garbage and rubbish shall be made at least once a day and more often if necessary. Final disposal shall be to a site approved by the Iowa department of public health.

19.4(5) *Medical facilities and personnel.* Each site shall be provided with an adequately staffed first aid station. Arrangements shall be made for ambulance service. There shall be some means of summoning an ambulance if required. The first aid station shall be readily accessible to ambulances.

19.4(6) *Food service facilities.* All food service facilities must be inspected and approved by the Iowa department of inspections and appeals before operation.

19.4(7) *Telephone.* At least one telephone shall be provided in a convenient location for each 1,000 attendants.

19.4(8) *Civil defense.* Notification of disaster service, local board of health, and law enforcement agency shall be provided.

641—19.5(135) *Violation of these rules.* Violation of these rules while the mass gathering is in progress, either by default of provision of required services or facilities or because of influx of greater number of attendants than anticipated, shall be grounds for immediately closing the mass gathering by order of the director of public health or other legal means instituted by the director or other state official.

These rules implement Iowa Code section 135.11.

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